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Benjamin R. Rice

Practice Areas: Civil Defense Litigation, Insurance Fraud, Professional Malpractice

Admitted: 1973, Alabama; U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama; U.S. District Court, Southern District of Alabama; U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit; United States Supreme Court

Biography: Phi Alpha Delta. Member: Huntsville-Madison County and American Bar Associations; Past President Huntsville-Madison County Bar Association; Alabama State Bar; American Board of Trial Advocates; Alabama Defense Lawyers Association; Defense Research Institute

Educated: Samford University (A.B., 1969); Cumberland School of Law of Samford University (J.D., 1972)

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Educated: Samford University (A.B., 1969); Cumberland School of Law of Samford University (J.D., 1972)

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Robert V. Wood, Jr.

Practice Areas: Civil Defense Litigation, Insurance Defense, Commercial Litigation, Construction Litigation, Professional Malpractice, Professional Errors and Omissions
Admitted: 1982, Alabama; U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama; U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit; U.S. Supreme Court

Biography: Phi Delta Phi, Associate Justice of Honor Court

Educated: Vanderbilt University (B.A., 1974); University of Alabama (J.D. 1982)

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Earl T. Forbes

Admitted to the bar 1994, Alabama; U. S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama; U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit. **Education:** University of Alabama (B.S., 1990; M.B.A., J.D., 1994) **Practice Areas:** Civil Defense Litigation, Insurance Defense, Worker's Compensation, and Subrogation

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Educated: University of Alabama (B.S., 1990; M.B.A., J.D., 1994)

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Nicole L. Schroer

Practice Areas: Civil Litigation, Commercial Litigation, Professional Malpractice, Insurance Defense

Admitted: 1997, Alabama; 2002, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama

Biography: Member: Order of the Barristers; National Trial Team, Winner, Robert B. Donworth Moot Court Competition, 1995. Recipient, Outstanding Trial Advocacy Board Advocate Award, 1997. Associate Justice, Trial Advocacy Board. Member, Regional Winning Team and National Semi-Finalist Team, ATLA National Trial Advocacy Competition, 1997. Recipient, Madison County Bar Association Community Service Award, 2002.

Educated: Virginia Tech (B.A. 1993), Cumberland School of Law (J.D., 1997)

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Ellen M. Melson

Practice Areas: General Litigation, Insurance Defense

Admitted: 2002, Alabama; U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama

Biography: Alabama Defense Lawyers Association

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Thomas A. Wheat

Practice Areas: General Litigation, Insurance Defense, Construction Litigation

Admitted: 2003, Alabama; U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama

Biography: Alabama Defense Lawyers Association; Member of the Board of Directors of the Alabama School of Math and Science; Huntsville-Madison County Bar

Educated: Auburn University (B.A. 2000), University of Alabama (J.D., 2003)

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Practice Areas: Civil Litigation, Insurance Defense, Commercial Litigation, Construction Litigation

Admitted: 2005, Alabama; U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama

Educated: Birmingham Southern College (B.S. 2002), University of Alabama (J.D., 2005)

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Donald N. Spurrier

Practice Areas: Civil Defense Litigation, Arson, Insurance Law, Bad Faith Law, Mediation

Admitted: 1956, Alabama; U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama; U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit; United States Supreme Court

Biography: Member: Huntsville-Madison County Bar Association; Alabama State Bar; Alabama Defense Lawyers Association; Defense Research Institute; International Association of Arson Investigators; Certified Member of the Alternative Dispute Resolution

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Born: Birmingham, Alabama, February 28, 1934

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Educated: Auburn University (B.A. 2000), University of Alabama (J.D., 2003)

Born: Selma, Alabama, June 1, 1978

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Wesley D. Etheredge

Practice Areas: General Litigation, Insurance Defense

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Biography: Alabama Defense Lawyers Association

Educated: University of Alabama (B.A. 2001), Cumberland School of Law of Samford University (J.D., 2004)

Born: Huntsville, Alabama, September 16, 1979

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Ellen M. Melson

Practice Areas: General Litigation, Insurance Defense

Admitted: 2002, Alabama; U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama

Biography: Alabama Defense Lawyers Association

Educated: Union University (B.A. 1999), Cumberland School of Law of Samford University (J.D., 2002)

Born: Decatur, Alabama, December 2, 1976

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Edward E. Blair

Practice Areas: General Litigation, Insurance Defense

Admitted: 1990, Alabama; U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama

Biography: Phi Alpha Delta. Member: Alabama State Bar, Huntsville-Madison County Bar Association, American Bar Association, Alabama Defense Lawyers Association

Educated: Birmingham-Southern College (B.A. 1987), Cumberland School of Law of Samford University (J.D., 1990)

Born: Great Falls, Montana, November 28, 1963

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Biography: Member: Huntsville-Madison County Bar Association; Alabama State Bar; Alabama Defense Lawyers Association; Defense Research Institute; International Association of Arson Investigators; Certified Member of the Alternative Dispute Resolution.

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Born: Arab, Alabama, March 4, 1947

Member: ABA

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Ruth Ann Hall

Practice Areas: Civil Defense Practice, Insurance and Arson, Bad Faith, Employment Discrimination, and Appellate Practice

Admitted: 1990, Alabama; 1991, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama; 1992, U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit

Biography: Member: Huntsville-Madison County Bar Association; Alabama State Bar; Alabama Defense Lawyers Association; Alabama Association of Arson Investigators.

Educated: University of Alabama at Huntsville (B.A., 1986); Cumberland School of Law of Samford University (J.D., 1990)

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Biography: Alabama State Bar.

Educated: Trevecca Nazarene University (B.S., 1996); University of Alabama School of Law (J.D. 1999)

Born: Bedford, Pennsylvania, July 18, 1974

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Ruth O. Priest

Admitted: 2000, Alabama

Biography: Alabama State Bar.

Educated: Trevecca Nazarene University (B.S., 1996); University of Alabama School of Law (J.D. 1999)

Born: Bedford, Pennsylvania, July 18, 1974

E-Mail: ruth@srhlawfirm.com

Nicole L. Stephens

Admitted: 1997, Alabama

Biography: Alabama State Bar, Huntsville-Madison County Bar Association, Order of the Barristers, Cumberland School of Law National Trial Team, 1996-1997, Inns of Court.

Educated: Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (B.A., 1993), Cumberland School of Law of Samford University (J.D., 1997)

Born: El Paso, Texas, December 7, 1971

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Tyler C. Vail

Admitted: 2001, Alabama

Biography: Alabama State Bar, Huntsville-Madison County Bar Association, Cumberland Law Review.

Educated: University of North Alabama (B.S. 1996), Cumberland School of Law of Samford University (J.D., 2001)

Born: Monroe, Louisiana, July 13, 1973

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Christian M. Comer

Admitted: 1999, Alabama

Biography: Alabama State Bar, Huntsville-Madison County Bar Association

Educated: Auburn University (B.S. 1996), University of Alabama (J.D., 1999)

Born: Beale AFB, California, November 5, 1972

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Madison Co.

General Civil Trial Practice, Insurance Defense, Insurance, Bad Faith, Fraud, Coverage Issues, Litigation, Personal Injury, Products Liability, Medical and Professional Malpractice, Workmen's Compensation and Media Law. Trials in all State and Federal Courts.

Firm Profile: The firm, rated *av* by *Martindale-Hubbell*, has extensive trial experience, with the two original Partners having practiced together for over twenty-five years. The firm's practice, consisting primarily of civil litigation, involves the handling of cases across the majority of the counties of North Alabama as well as the Federal Courts. As a result of the years of experience and geographical area involved, the firm has handled, and continues to handle on a regular basis, all types of litigation. While providing a vigorous defense of lawsuits, the firm is committed to the prompt and economical resolution of disputes when in the best interest of the client.

Firm Size: 8

Representative Clients: Alabama Hospital Associated Trust; Alfa Mutual Insurance Co.; Allstate Insurance Co.; Amoco; American States Insurance Co.; Atlanta Casualty; Attorneys Insurance Mutual; Auto-Owners Insurance Co.; Black & Decker; Chubb Group of Insurance Cos.; CIGNA Insurance Cos.; CNA; Commercial Union Insurance Cos.; Coastal Ins. Group; Cotton States Insurance Co.; CUNA Mutual; Farmer's Insurance Group; General Accident Insurance Company; Great American Insurance Co.; Harleysville Insurance Company; ITT Hartford; K-Mart; McDonald's; Maryland Casualty Insurance Co.; Northbrook Insurance Co.; Ohio Casualty Insurance Co.; Penn National; Preferred Risk Mutual Insurance Co.; Reliance Insurance Co.; SAFECO Insurance Co.; Scottsdale Insurance Co.; Sears Roebuck & Co.; Sentry Insurance Co.; St. Paul; State Auto Insurance Co.; State Farm Insurance Co.; Transamerica Insurance Co.; Travelers Insurance Co.; Winn Dixie Stores; Zurich Insurance Group.

Donald N. Spurrier

Practice Areas: Civil Defense Litigation, Arson, Insurance Law, Bad Faith Law
Admitted. 1956, Alabama, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama; U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit, United States Supreme Court

Biography: Member: Huntsville-Madison County Bar Association; Alabama State Bar; Alabama Defense Lawyers Association; Defense Research Institute; International Association of Arson Investigators.

Educated: University of Alabama (A.B., 1954; LL.B., 1956)

Born: Birmingham, Alabama, February 28, 1934

Benjamin R. Rice

Practice Areas: Civil Defense Litigation, Insurance Fraud, Professional Malpractice
Admitted. 1973, Alabama, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama; U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit

Biography: Phi Alpha Delta. Member: Huntsville-Madison County and American Bar Associations; Alabama State Bar; International Association of Defense Counsel; Alabama Defense Lawyers Association; Defense Research Institute; International Association of Arson Investigators.

Educated: Samford University (A.B., 1969); Cumberland School of Law of Samford University (J.D., 1972)

Born: Arab, Alabama, March 4, 1947

Member. ABA

Robert V. Wood

Practice Areas: Civil Defense Litigation, Commercial Litigation, Professional Malpractice, Employment Liability

Admitted: 1982, Alabama, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama; U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit

Biography: Phi Delta Phi. Associate Justice of Honor Court. Member: Huntsville-Madison County Bar Association; Alabama State Bar; Alabama Defense Lawyers Association.

Educated: Vanderbilt University (B.A., 1974); University of Alabama School of Law (J.D., 1982)

Born: Birmingham, Alabama, July 9, 1957

Ruth Ann Hall

Practice Areas: Civil Defense Practice, Insurance and Arson, Bad Faith, Employment Discrimination, and Appellate Practice

Admitted. 1990, Alabama; 1991, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama; 1992, U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit

Biography: Member: Huntsville-Madison County Bar Association; Alabama State Bar; Alabama Defense Lawyers Association; Alabama Association of Arson Investigators.

Educated: University of Alabama at Huntsville (B.A., 1986); Cumberland School of Law of Samford University (J.D., 1990)

Born: Huntsville, Alabama, March 8, 1963

Member: ABA

Earl T. Forbes

Practice Areas: Insurance Defense, Worker's Compensation, and Subrogation

Admitted. 1994, Alabama, U. S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama

Biography: Gamma Beta Phi. Member: Alabama State Bar, Huntsville-Madison County Bar Association, American Inns of Court-Madison County Chapter, American Bar Association.

Educated: University of Alabama (B.S., 1990; M.B.A., J.D., 1994)

Born: Huntsville, Alabama, December 3, 1967

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Earl T. Forbes

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Biography: Gamma Beta Phi. Member: Alabama State Bar.

Educated. University of Alabama (B.S., 1990; M.B.A., J.D., 1994)

Born: Huntsville, Alabama, December 3, 1967

Member: ABA

Deborah S. Hensley

Admitted. 1994, Florida; 1995, Alabama, U. S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama

Biography: Member, American Journal of Trial Advocacy. Member: The Florida Bar; Alabama State Bar.

Educated. East Carolina University (B.A., 1973); Cumberland School of Law (J.D., 1994)

Born: Knoxville, Tennessee, December 17, 1951

Jonathan B. Medlock

Admitted. 1995, Alabama, U. S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama

Biography: Member, American Journal of Trial Advocacy. Member: Alabama State Bar.

Educated. Oglethorpe University (B.A., 1992); Cumberland School of Law of Samford University (J.D., 1995)

Born: Huntsville, Alabama, October 13, 1969

Richard C. Morris

Practice Areas: Litigation, Insurance

Admitted: 1997, Alabama

Biography: Order of the Barristers; Bench and Bar Member, University of Alabama National Moot Court Team, 1993-1994. Lead Articles Editor, Law and Psychology Review, 1993-1994. Member: American Bar Association; Alabama State Bar.

Educated. Athens State College (B.S., 1994); University of Alabama (J.D., 1997)

Born: Huntsville, Alabama, April 14, 1973

Member. ABA

Ruth O. Priest

Practice Areas: General Litigation, Insurance Defense, Insurance Law

Admitted: 2000, Alabama; U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama; U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit

Biography: Alabama State Bar

Educated: Trevecca Nazarene University (B.S., 1996); University of Alabama School of Law (J.D. 1999)

Born: Bedford, Pennsylvania, July 18, 1974

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